



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

Reply To  
Attn Of: OWW-130

NOV 28 2007

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested

Bill Britt  
Alaska Team Lead, HES  
Chevron  
909 West 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

RE: Cook Inlet NPDES General Permit (AKG-31-5000)

Dear Mr. Britt:

This letter is written in response to a question raised by Richard Vicente of your staff on November 6, 2007 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the appropriate extraction and analytical methods for fingerprint analysis of water-based drilling muds/fluids in accordance with the Cook Inlet NPDES General Permit AKG-31-5000 (Permit), Section II.B.4.c - Diesel Oil. The Permit specified an analytical methodology (CENTEC, 1985), which is obsolete. EPA has consulted with our analytical laboratory in Manchester, Washington, and determined that EPA's SW846 Method 8015B would be an appropriate analytical method for a fingerprint analysis. Method 8015B is a gas chromatograph/flame Ionization detector (GC/FID) procedure and should be performed in substitution of the CENTEC method. This minor Permit modification is made pursuant the regulations found at 40 CFR 122.63(a).

If you have any questions regarding this modification of your permit, please contact me at (206) 553-7151 or Hanh Shaw of my staff at (206) 553-0171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Gearheard".

Michael F. Gearheard, Director  
Office of Water & Watersheds

cc: Nina Hutton, XTO Energy  
Mike Stahl, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.  
Sharmon Stambaugh, ADEC